

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 108660

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, FR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING'S TELEPHONE CALL
TO PRESIDENT FORD

FOLLOWING EXCHANGE OCCURRED DURING A NEWS CONFERENCE
AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH RON NESSEN ON MAY 8:

"MR. NESSEN: THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE, PRESIDENT GISCARD
D'ESTAING, TELEPHONED THE PRESIDENT THIS MORNING AND
THANKED THE AMERICAN PEOPLE FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS
DURING WORLD WAR II. THIS IS THE ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY,
AS YOU KNOW.

Q. DID PRESIDENT D'ESTAING CALL PERSONALLY OR HOW WAS IT
COMMUNICATED?

MR. NESSEN: IT WAS A PERSONAL PHONE CALL. THEY ESTAB-
LISHED, AS I AM SURE YOU KNOW, A VERY FRIENDLY RELATION-
SHIP IN MARTINIQUE AND HAVE TALKED ON THE PHONE OTHER
TIMES.

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Q. THEN WHY ISN'T HE GOING TO THE BRUSSELS MEETING?

(LAUGHTER)

Q. DID THEY DISCUSS ANY OTHER SUBJECTS?

MR. NESSEN: NO." KISSINGER

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